

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY: NEA:EABINGTON

APPROVED BY: NEA:EABINGTON

S/S-O-AOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T STATE 081266

NODIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM JIDDA DTD 04 APR 1976 QOTE

S E C R E T JIDDA 2420

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, SA

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH FONMIN SAUD ON LEBANON

1. LEBANON WAS INITIAL TOPIC OF CONVERSATION IN CALL BY  
AMBASSADOR AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER ON PRINCE  
SAUD APRIL 3. SAUD SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE CEASE-  
FIRE AND EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN ROLE IN SEEKING  
A RESOLUTION. HE ALSO INDICATED CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FOR  
POSSIBLE UNILATERAL INTRODUCTION OF SYRIAN MILITARY FORCES  
SHOULD THAT BE NECESSARY TO STOP THE FIGHTING AND LEAD THE  
WAY TO A SOLUTION. IN THAT CASE, HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE  
UP TO U.S. TO RESTRAIN THE ISRAELIS AND INSURE THAT THEY  
WOULD NOT MOVE IN FORCES THEMSELVES. SAUD THOUGHT THE  
ISRAELIS WERE, IN FACT, LOOKING FOR PRETEXT TO MOVE INTO

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LEBANON.

2. AMBASSADOR AND SOBER ASSURED SAUD THAT OUR INTEREST LIES IN AGREEMENT AMONG THE LEBANESE ON A BASIC POLITICAL SOLUTION THAT IS SATISFACTORY TO THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS IN LEBANON; THAT WE THOUGHT THE POLITICAL COMPROMISE WORKED OUT IN CONNECTION WITH THE JANUARY CEASE-FIRE PROVIDED THE BASIS FOR SUCH A SOLUTION, AND THAT WE CONSIDERED THE SYRIAN ROLE TO HAVE BEEN FUNDAMENTALLY CONSTRUCTIVE AND HELPFUL.

3. AMBASSADOR AND SOBER NOTED THAT WE HAD, INDEED, CAUTIONED THE ISRAELIS ON THE MATTER OF MILITARY INTERVENTION. WE HAD COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT UNILATERAL INTERVENTION BY ANY OUTSIDE FORCE COULD LEAD TO DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES BECAUSE OF LIKELY RETALIATION. WE SHARED SAUD'S HOPE THAT THE CURRENT CEASE-FIRE WOULD NOW LEAD TO AN EARLY POLITICAL SOLUTION.

4. SAUD AND AMBASSADOR AGREED ON NEED TO REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH ON LEBANON DEVELOPMENTS.  
PORTER UNQTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** BEIRUT DAMASCUS  
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